Appl. No.: 10/695,601

Amdt. dated September 1, 2006

Reply to Office Action of March 1, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the present application, with Claims 15-17 being withdrawn as a result of a prior election. Claims 1, 4, 9, 11 and 14 are rejected on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatenable over Claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,357,101 to Branko Sarh et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,861,484 to Jack A. Rance or U.S. Patent No. 710,257 to Adolph L. DeLeeuw. The Official Action also rejected Claims 2 and 3 on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 1 of the '101 Sarh patent in view of the Rance '484 patent or the DeLeeuw '257 patent in further view of Japanese reference 6-270005. In addition the Official Action rejected Claims 5-8, 10, 12 and 13 on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatenable over Claim 1 of the Sarh '101 patent in view of the Rance '484 patent or the DeLeeuw '257 patent in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,685,058 to Gregory C. Gibler.

As all of the rejections are nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejections premised upon Claim 1 of the Sarh '101 patent, a Terminal Disclaimer is filed herewith in order to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejections. Moreover, the sole independent claim that is currently undergoing examination, that is, Claim 1, has also been amended to recite that the clamp is secured to the structure and that the electromagnet is then energized to securely hold the multiple layer structure together once the clamp has been positioned and secured. None of the cited references teaches or suggests positioning and securing a clamp to the structure prior to energizing the electromagnet so as to securely hold the multiple layer structure together as now recited by independent Claim 1 and, indeed, none of the cited references were cited by the Official Action for such a proposition. As such, the rejections of the claims are also submitted to be overcome for this additional, independent reason.

Appl. No.: 10/695,601

Amdt. dated September 1, 2006

Reply to Office Action of March 1, 2006

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the amendments to the claims and the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims of the present application are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 34.610

Customer No. 00826 ALSTON & BIRD LLP Bank of America Plaza 101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000 Charlotte, NC 28280-4000 Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000 Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE ON September 1, 2006 by Joyce Smith.

LEGAL02/30070774v1